



**US Army Corps
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New Orleans District

News Release

Public Affairs Office, 7400 Leake Ave.
www.mvn.usace.army.mil

Tel. 504-862-2201
Fax 504-862-1724

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Contact Julie T. Morgan, 504-862-2201
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Public invited to comment on Barataria Basin restoration strategies

NEW ORLEANS – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Louisiana Department of Natural Resources invite the public to participate in a meeting next week on restoring the Barataria Basin.

The meeting will be held Tuesday, February 20, at 7 p.m. in the Louisiana Room of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive in Baton Rouge.

For the past year, the New Orleans District of the Corps of Engineers and DNR have been collecting data to determine the best methods of implementing large-scale strategies to restore the Barataria Basin. It is part of a study, entitled “Louisiana Coastal Area, Louisiana-Ecosystem Restoration, Barrier Island Restoration, Marsh Creation, and River Diversion, Barataria Basin Feasibility Study,” focusing on marsh creation, barrier island restoration and river diversion strategies.

They are now incorporating the data and public comments into definitive project plans for formal feasibility analysis.

Two strategies to be considered are:

- * Dedicated dredging for marsh creation along La. Highway 1 and in Caminada Bay
- * Barrier island shoreline restoration from Belle Pass to Sandy Point

The Barataria Basin was selected as the first area for study and action under Coast 2050, a strategy established in 1998. Coast 2050 offers large-scale restoration and management strategies that consider the multiple uses of Louisiana’s coastal landscape.

Those interested in attending and preparing comments in advance can review meeting materials, including project maps, at the study's Web site at www.coast2050.gov.

For additional information, contact Howie Gonzales, Corps of Engineers, at 504-862-1672, or Jon Porthouse, DNR, at 225-342-9421, or e-mail the study team at www.coast2050info@dnr.state.la.us.